

INFORMATION BULLETIN

WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACT

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TO: WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY

SUBJECT: LWIA ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONFERENCE CALL MINUTES-

OCTOBER 25, 2002

The minutes and revised agenda from the Local Workforce Investment Area (LWIA) Advisory Committee conference call on Friday, October 25, 2002, are attached for your review and information. Please ensure that the minutes are provided to the appropriate staff.

If you have any questions regarding the minutes, please contact James Scholl at (916) 657-4610, or Jeannie Pryor at (916) 654-8035.

/S/ BOB HERMSMEIER
Acting Chief
Workforce Investment Division

Attachments

LOCAL WORKFORCE INVESTMENT AREA ADVISORY CONFERENCE CALL

Friday, October 25, 2002

Agenda

10:00 a.m. Welcome/Hot Topics Bill Burke, Workforce

Development Branch

California Workforce Investment Board (State Dave Mar, State Board

Board) Report

Input on Waivers Identified by the LWIAs Tim Rainey, California

Workforce Association

(CWA)

Programs to Showcase in Annual Report Tim Rainey, CWA

WIA Reauthorization Michael Evashenk,

Workforce Investment

Division (WID)

Rapid Response and WIA Discretionary Funds Bob Hermsmeier, WID

Solicit Items for December 13 Quarterly Agenda All

Open Discussion

LOCAL WORKFORCE INVESTMENT AREA ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONFERENCE CALL MINUTES

Friday, October 25, 2002

Welcome/Agenda Building/Hot Topics—Bill Burke, Workforce Development Branch

Performance Measures—The performance measures for Program Year (PY) 2001-2002 have been finalized and released in <u>Information Bulletin WIAB02-37</u>. Because the Department of Labor (DOL) would not negotiate on the credential measures, the State used flat rates. This was consistent with last year's approach. In most cases, the Local Workforce Investment Areas (LWIA) proposed credential measures agreed with the State's credential rates.

If local areas have major concerns about the resulting numbers, they can request reconsideration. The local areas need to start preparing for the performance measures of PY 2003-2004 and PY 2004-2005, which are required to be submitted to DOL by the end of this year.

• Common Performance Measures—The federal government has been looking at developing common performance measures for approximately 17 programs. Included are all the DOL employment and training programs as well as a number of Department of Education programs, adult education and rehabilitation services, the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Veteran's Affairs vocational and rehabilitation employment services, the Department of the Interior Job Training and Placement, and Youth Build out of Housing and Urban Development. The departments came together under a White House initiative and defined the common performance measures. The agreed upon measures were recently approved by the Office of Management and Budgets.

The definition of common performance measures really results in common performance categories. The categories for the adult programs are entered employment, retention, earnings increase, and efficiency. For youth programs, the categories will be placement in employment or education, attainment of a degree or a certificate, a literacy gains measure based on a common assessment tool, and an efficiency measure. The programs/agencies are given some latitude as far as how they define the numerators and denominators for the measures. These measures will not take effect right away at the State and local level but will first start at the national level. How they come into play for PY 2003-2004 or PY 2004-2005 depends on what happens with reauthorization. The Workforce Investment Division (WID) will send out this information in an information bulletin and will schedule a meeting to discuss issues around performance.

- Customer Satisfaction—The Human Resources Research Review Board (HRRRB) of the California State University at San Marcos (CSUSM) is handling California's Workforce Investment Act (WIA) customer satisfaction surveys at the State level. The HRRRB reviews all CSUSM survey research activities to determine whether individual rights to privacy are being effectively protected. The HRRRB has raised a question about making youth contacts on customer satisfaction surveys. The HRRRB is saying they will not allow employees of CSUSM to contact youth unless there is parental or guardian consent. Liz Clingman asked the administrators on the call whether they are obtaining parental or guardian consent for participation in the WIA Youth Program. The majority on the conference call said no.
- Priority of Service for Veterans—The House and Senate passed HR4015, the Jobs for Veterans Act. The President subsequently signed the bill on November 7, 2002. This bill is a major rewrite of Title 38, Chapters 41 and 42, and extends priority of service to veterans in all programs that come under the umbrella of the DOL, including the WIA. In addition, the bill extends priority to spouses of certain categories of veterans. The effective date is July 1, 2003.
- Labor Agency Update—The staff for the Labor Agency moved into their new location a few weeks ago. When Steve Smith and Sam Rodriguez travel to the local areas, both the State Board and the Employment Development Department (EDD) have been providing background information to facilitate those visits. They have made three to four trips to the local areas and are planning to visit more local areas between now and the end of the calendar year. They're going out to do media events, to sit in on presentations or workshops, as well as meeting with administrators and visiting One-Stop centers. Generally, the Labor Agency seems to be moving things quickly through the process. Faith-based are under the purview of the Health and Human Services Agency while the Labor Agency has responsibility for the other WIA and Welfare-to-Work programs.

Geneva Robinson has been appointed as the Acting Chief Deputy of EDD. Sam Rodriquez is the Acting Undersecretary to Steve Smith of the Labor Agency.

A coordination meeting is held every Monday at the Labor Agency, with all departments attending and receiving the same direction and information from Steve Smith. The State Board has been working closely with the Labor Agency.

State Board Report—Dave Mar, State Board

The next State Board meeting is on December 12 at the Radisson Hotel in Sacramento. The State Board will send out an agenda, which will include the One-Stop certification process and waivers. Recent meetings were held in Sacramento and Ventura regarding the One-Stop certification process. Kathleen Milnes of the State Board and Bruce Stenslie of the Ventura County Workforce Investment Board have agreed to be co-chairs of the workgroup. Both attended the Ventura meeting and participated in setting direction and goals for the One-Stop certification process. The State Board is hoping to provide a Self-Study Guide or Technical Assistance Guide that could be used by local staff to assess their local programs and systems relative to One-Stop certification requirements.

<u>Input on Waivers Identified by the LWIAs</u>—Tim Rainey, California Workforce Association (CWA)

The CWA Executive Committee has discussed the list of waivers. The CWA wants to focus on waivers that have already been approved by DOL for other states because those will probably be approved easier and faster. The CWA will send out an e-mail in order to get input from the CWA board regarding waivers. The State Board could be the final word on the ideas suggested by the CWA Board. The CWA will coordinate with the WID on how to process waivers.

In addition to the CWA effort the WID plans to develop three waivers: (1) to increase the current 20 percent limit on funds that could be shifted between dislocated worker and adult, (2) to postpone subsequent eligibility, and (3) to eliminate the youth provider list.

Programs to Showcase in Annual Report—Tim Rainey, CWA

The CWA and the State Board are in the process of preparing this year's Annual Report. The local areas were asked to provide some promising practices that could be showcased in the report. The State Board provided several subject areas they want to highlight in the Annual Report as well. The Annual Report must be submitted to DOL by December 1.

WIA Reauthorization—Michael Evashenk, WID

In the next calendar year, DOL will be working with Congress to develop legislation for reauthorizing WIA. Earlier this year, DOL held a dozen public forums to gather input on WIA reauthorization. Secretary of Labor Elaine Chao and Assistant Secretary Emily DeRocco are developing strategies regarding WIA reauthorization, and DOL will ultimately publish a white paper. The CWA has created an ad hoc committee to facilitate work on reauthorization. The State Board, and ultimately other State and local partners, will work together to create a set of principles for reauthorization from California's perspective. In November, CWA plans to have their white paper finished. By the end of the year, CWA and the State Board plan to have California's position paper completed.

Rapid Response and WIA Discretionary Funds—Bob Hermsmeier, WID

Funds are depleted at the State level. The 15 percent account is running a deficit and WID is working with the control agencies in the State to ensure there are enough funds to meet the commitments that have been made. The 25 percent dislocated workers account is almost depleted. There are projects that are in the process of approval as well as some that are being negotiated with the local areas. At this time, there is approximately \$6 to \$7 million available to fund new projects. Several projects that were funded a few months ago are being renegotiated in a split-year model. At the State level, we are in the process of creating a "prudent reserve" to meet future rapid response requirements.

Last year, \$25 million in total was issued for rapid response. This year, WID received rapid response requests totaling \$37 million. The recommendations on the second wave of rapid response are in the process of being worked out. Several local areas are running out of bridge funding and need the infusion of the additional funds for the remainder of the year.

December 13 Quarterly Meeting Agenda Items—All

The December 13 Administrator's Quarterly meeting is in San Diego at the Coronado Marriott Hotel. Information regarding hotel accommodations can be found on the EDD Web site, Information Bulletin WIAB02-36.

The Advisory Committee suggested the following agenda items:

- Policy for 25 Percent Funding
- Update on Labor Agency
- Common Performance Measures
- Changes in Five-Year Strategic Plan and Area Designation
- TAA, HR4015, State WARN notice
- DOL Business Relations Task Force Toys R Us, etc.
- Status of Renegotiations on Performance Measures Between DOL and the State
- Redesigning the State JTA System
- Rapid Response Extension Request